Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 28, lines 7-16 with the following amended paragraph:

L. fermentum BRII was grown in standing MRS broth at 37°C and fractions were taken at five timepoints (Figure 1). SDS-PAGE analysis revealed a mnnber of proteins which accumulated in the supernatant during growth (Figure 1). The smallest visible protein (indicated by the arrow) was still abundant in late stationary phase when the level of a number of other proteins had reduced. This protein was called Sep for small exported protein. When its small size is taken into account, Sep is one of the most abundant protein found in the supernatant of *L. fermentum* BRII. To further characterize Sep we identified the N-terminal sequence which was found to be: DTIYTVQSGDTLSGI (SEQ ID NO:34). Sep is a 205 amino acid protein with a 30 amino acid N-terminal secretion signal giving rise to a predicted 19-kDa mature protein with an isoelectric point of 5.3.

Please replace the paragraph at page 28, lines 22-30 with the following amended paragraph:

The region encoding the amino-terminal 1 to 216 amio acids of the mature E-cadherin protein was amplified by PCR from cDNA template prepared from cultured mammalian T47D and LNCap cells using oligonucleotides E-cad-PstI and E-cad-XhoI (Table 4; SEQ ID NOS:32 and 33, respectively). This fragment was cloned in frame downstream of DNA encoding the Sep secretion signal to generate construct Sep-6xHis-Ecad. The sequence of the cloned E-cadherin DNA fragment which contained an introduced stop codon after codon 216 was checked by DNA sequencing. The putative *bspA* transcription terminator was amplified using oligonucleotides Term-Xho and Term-Hind and cloned downstream of the E-cadherin encoding DNA.

Please replace the paragraph at page 30, line 24 through page 31, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

The construct (Sep-6xHis-Sep) consist of DNA upstream of *sep* and the *sep* 5' region encoding the secretion signal and a six-histidine (His_6) epitope (amplified and cloned using Nterm-US-Xba (SEQ ID NO:28) and Nterm-Pst-US (SEQ ID NO:29)) and DNA encoding the mature Sep protein and the putative *sep* transcription terminator (amplified and cloned using SepDSPstXho (SEQ ID NO:30) and SepDS-ApaSal (SEQ ID NO:31)). The construct (BspA-6xHis-Sep) consists of DNA encoding the mature Sep protein and putative *sep* transcription terminator as above but instead contains upstream DNA encoding a full length BspA protein followed by DNA encoding the BspA secretion signal and a His epitope as described previously (Turner et al. *supra*). The extra amino acids added onto the mature N-termini of Sep in the Sep-6xHis-Sep construct are: DTIYTDHHHHHHSAAGSR (SEQ ID NO:21) and in the BspA-6xHis-Sep construct are: ASDDVHHHHHHSAAGSR (SEQ ID NO:22).

Please replace the table legend for Table 4 at page 40, line 2, with the following amended sentence:

[a] Underline indicates restriction endonuclease recognition sites (SEQ ID NOS:23-33, respectively).